

Carothers and Wheeler to Represent SWOSU at Miss Oklahoma Pageant

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Miss
SWOSU
2009
Kaeli
2009
Carothers
Nicole
Wheeler

Kaeli Jo Carothers of Hollis and Ashley Nicole Wheeler of Altus (Navajo) will represent Southwestern Oklahoma State University at the Miss Oklahoma Pageant, which is May 30-June 6 in Tulsa.

Carothers won the title of Miss SWOSU last fall on the Weatherford campus. She will be among 42 contestants vying for the Miss Oklahoma title. Wheeler will represent SWOSU in the Miss Oklahoma Teen Pageant. The 16-year-old Wheeler, who won last fall's first-ever teen competition at SWOSU, will compete against 28 contestants.

Carothers is majoring in pre-pharmacy at SWOSU. She will compete in the Sigma group at Miss Oklahoma. For her talent on Thursday evening, she will perform a jazz dance to "My Strongest Suit."

She will also compete throughout the week in other preliminary competitions including interview on Tuesday morning, on-stage question and evening wear on Tuesday night, and swimsuit on Wednesday evening. The finals will be Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Mabee Center in Tulsa. The winner of the pageant advances to the Miss America Pageant.

Carothers' platform issue is "A Walk a Day Keeps the Doctor Away."

Wheeler will compete in the Omega group. Her interview is on Wednesday morning and her active wear/evening gown competition is Thursday afternoon. Her on-stage question and talent competition is on Friday morning. She will sing "Proud Mary." Her platform is "Be a RAP Star" to educate children on the life-saving tool of an evacuation plan for a fire emergency.

The teen pageant finals will be held on Friday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Mabee Center.

Also accompanying Carothers to this year's pageant will be 10-year-old Andrae' Cook and 10-year-old Jahven Tanner, who are Oklahoma Stars for the Miss SWOSU Pageant. The Oklahoma Star mentoring program is designed to expose girls ages 6-11 to outstanding young women as role models.

Cook is the daughter of Doug and Kim Cook of Weatherford, and Tanner is the daughter of Robert and Grace Tanner of Weatherford. Both girls just finished the fourth grade.

SWOSU's annual pageants in 2009 will be November 14 on the Weatherford campus.